

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY: EUR/TUR: RSDILLON

APPROVED BY: S/S: WHLUERS

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R 070103Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T STATE 093356

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT USNATO 2175 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ATHENS  
23 APR 74

QTE

S E C R E T USNATO 2175

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, NATO

SUBJECT: U.S. POLICY TOWARDS GREECE

1. FROM THE VANTAGE POINT OF USNATO, IT APPEARS THAT DEVELOPMENTS IN GREECE AND DEVELOPMENTS BETWEEN GREECE AND ITS NATO ALLIES, INCLUDING TURKEY, POSE SERIOUS QUESTIONS CONCERNING PRESENT U.S. POLICIES TOWARDS THE CURRENT GREEK GOVERNMENT. I RECOMMEND THAT A REVIEW OF THOSE POLICIES BE UNDERTAKEN. IF SUCH A REVIEW IS ALREADY UNDERWAY, I WOULD APPRECIATE AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON THE NATO ASPECTS.

2. BRIEFLY, IT APPEARS TO ME THAT GREECE IS BEING STEADILY WEAKENED ON ALL FRONTS--POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND MILITARY--BY THE LACK OF COMPETENCE OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, EVEN

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MORE IMPORTANT AND MORE BASIC IS THE FAILURE OF THE GREEK MILITARY

TO MOVE GREECE, IF NOT TOWARDS REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY, AT LEAST TOWARDS A SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT BEHIND WHICH SOME KIND OF REASONABLE CONSENSUS CAN BE FORMED. NOTE, FOR EXAMPLE, ITEM FIVE DIA MESSAGE 190305Z APR 74. IF THIS PROCESS CONTINUES, IMPORTANT U.S. STRATEGIC INTERESTS COULD BE PUT IN JEOPARDY. FOR EXAMPLE, INSTABILITY IN GREECE MAY GENERATE A PERMANENT STATE OF TENSION OR WORSE-- BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY.

3. IN ADDITION, I BELIEVE THERE IS A CASE TO BE MADE FOR A U.S. POSITION OF RESPONSIBLE AND MEASURED CRITICISM OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN GREECE, TO ACCOMPANY ACTIONS WE ARE TAKING PRIVATELY TO NUDGE THOSE WHO HOLD POWER IN GREECE, AND THOSE OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE WHO CAN INFLUENCE OFFICE HOLDERS, TOWARDS SOME MEASURE OF LIBERALIZATION. THE MAJORITY OF THE ALLIES, SPEARHEADED BY THE SCANDINAVIANS, THE DUTCH AND POSSIBLY THE BRITISH, MAY OTHERWISE TAKE A PUBLIC STANCE TOWARDS GREECE WHICH COULD UNFAVORABLY AFFECT THE POSSIBILITIES FOR A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER IN GREECE AND WHICH WOULD INTRODUCE FURTHER SERIOUS DIVISIONS INTO THE ALLIANCE.

4. IN SUM, THEREFORE, IT APPEARS TO ME THAT BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY THE UNITED STATES WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE AND WITH OUR ALLIES IN NATO SHOULD BE ASSUMING A POSTURE OF GREATER CONCERN ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF THE DISTURBING TRENDS NOW EVIDENT IN GREECE. I WOULD WELCOME AMBASSADOR TASCA'S COMMENTS.  
RUMSFELD UNQTE RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE093356  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EUR/TUR: RSDILLON  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <10-Sep-2002 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** U.S. POLICY TOWARDS GREECE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, GR, NATO  
**To:** ANKARA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005